



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
State of Illinois
Paul J. Campbell, Director
Illinois Department of Central Management Services

Achieving Greater Accountability,
Cost Savings and Transparency

July 20, 2006
Volume 1, Issue 7



***Government Procurement Journal:* Illinois Transforms Procurement and Saves**

Recent work to create a coordinated statewide organization to better manage the State of Illinois' procurement process — and bring greater efficiency, accountability and transparency to the State's annual purchase of more than \$1 billion of goods and services — is the cover story of the latest edition of the respected national publication, *Government Procurement Journal*. The article is excerpted below:



Illinois Transforms Procurement and Saves

As part of an effort to improve the effectiveness of state government, the State of Illinois has streamlined operations and services. Cost reductions, increased transparency of services and results, and improved accountability have led the effort to transform the state into a coordinated enterprise-wide organization. In addition, standardized processes and procedures have produced better service at lower prices, created the foundation for sustained productivity, and furthered government policies.

In 2003, Illinois Governor Rod R. Blagojevich instructed the Department of Central Management Services (CMS) to analyze the state's key functions and implement changes that would lead to greater efficiency and accountability.... CMS began to pursue a shared-services model that would reduce duplicated effort and, ultimately, coordinate statewide delivery of similar functions and services. In response to the governor's mandate, the Procurement Initiative was launched, and the resulting redesigned procurement organization became known as the Bureau of Strategic Sourcing and Procurement (BOSSAP)....

Prior to reorganization, silo-like agencies with their own back-office functions and systems were the norm. After months of work, the "silos" were converted into an enterprise framework that greatly reduced duplication of efforts....

BOSSAP continues to work closely with the State Purchasing Officer (SPO) of each agency to ensure consistent application of procurement policies and practices, as well as further the goal of balancing policy and savings....

Illinois' Procurement Initiative has allowed the state to implement statewide policies and procedures, reduce prices paid for goods and services, eliminate duplication of back-office functions, and fund programs that are important to constituents — all in a transparent, accountable process.

For a copy of the complete article, please contact the CMS Office of Government Affairs at 217-785-1941.